

Doll, Letters Cheer Up Girl With Bad Burns

A new doll is a wish come true for a young burn victim.

Heather Cochrane, 7, received her "Heather Doll" this week in the intensive care unit of Hillcrest Medical Center.

"She can't hold it or play with it or have it on her," said her father Mike Cochrane. "But she wanted that baby in bed with her."

Heather entered the hospital on April 27 following a motorcycle accident on a dirt road about six miles southeast of Coweta.

She was seated behind her brother Jon, 9, who was driving the bike when it collided with a pickup truck and exploded.

Jon died on impact. Heather entered Hillcrest with burns covering 75 percent of her body. Second- and third-degree burns covered 55 percent of her body.

The doll, which was a gift from Wal-Mart corporation and Mattel, has helped put a smile on the young girl's face.

"She's tickled to death," Cochrane said.

Heather had asked for the \$149 doll since Christmas. Mike Cochrane said he and his wife had searched everywhere for the doll, but stores were out of stock.

They also wanted to give the doll to Heather for her birthday in March, but they still couldn't find it. They were told that the doll had been discontinued.

They were surprised when the doll arrived with a letter from the corporate office of Wal-Mart.

Cochrane said a woman who works with his wife had heard the story about the "Heather Doll" and told a minister in Glenpool. He in turn contacted the Arkansas headquarters of Wal-Mart.

"People are fantastic," Cochrane said. "It's unbelievable the nice things people have done."

Letters, cards, stuffed animals and other gifts have arrived from people they don't even know.

A spiral notebook full of letters is kept in the waiting room near Heather.

"The list goes on and on," Cochrane said. "It's amazing."

Heather has undergone nearly 16 surgeries and remains in critical condition.