RAYNE — The first known death in Acadia Parish from Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was recorded here over the weekend, said Acadia Parish Coroner Dr. Mark Dawson.

Dawson said the 23-year-old married man died in his home about 1 p.m. Saturday.

Dawson said the victim apparently contracted the condition through a blood transfusion he received a few years ago at Charity Hospital in New Orleans.

The coroner, who also happened to be the victim’s family doctor, said the man was diagnosed as having the condition about February of this year.

He said the man was treated the weekend before his death at Rayne-Branch Hospital, adding that the victim previously had been treated at Charity Hospital and University Medical Hospital in Lafayette.

“Charity followed his case for a while, and then UMC,” Dawson said. “I was treating him toward the end.”

The case was the only known case of AIDS in Acadia Parish, said Janis Simms, spokeswoman for the state Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR).

Simms said there have been 152 known cases of AIDS in the state. Of those, she said, 142 are males and 10 are females.

Since the first case was reported in 1975, 89 state residents have died from the condition.

The highest concentration of AIDS victims, a total of 95, have been in Orleans Parish, she said.

In Acadia Parish, there is one known case of AIDS in Iberia Parish, one in St. Martin Parish, one in St. Mary Parish, none in St. Landry Parish, and none in Vermilion Parish, Simms said.

The condition, which until recently was confined primarily to homosexual males, causes the body to lose its resiliency to other diseases.