Carl Henry Malm was born 21 May 1899 (some records say 1900) in South St. Paul to Oscar C. Malm (born ca. 1860- died after 1912) and Elizabeth Bryngelson (1860-1930), both born and married in Sweden. They migrated to Cannon Falls in Goodhue County before coming to South St. Paul by 1889. Carl’s father disappeared from South St. Paul in November 1912 and was never found. Carl was the youngest of eight children. Carl’s mother was a member of the 1st Presbyterian Church in South St. Paul, the Sharon Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, and the local VFW.

Carl registered for the draft on 5 September 1918 and was soon sent to Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia for training. He was assigned to the 304th Field Artillery, 76th Division, Engineers Corps. However, he never saw any fighting because he became ill and died of pneumonia on 12 November 1918. His death is recorded in Chattanooga, Tennessee, however it shows place of death as Ft. Oglethorpe, Georgia (nine miles away), so he may have been in transit on a troop train when he died. His age was recorded as 21.

A private funeral was held at Meeker & Smith funeral home on 5th Avenue South in South St. Paul due to a ban on public funerals on account of the influenza epidemic. He was survived by his mother and six brothers and one sister. Carl is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in South St. Paul. A memorial service was held at Oak Hill Cemetery to honor all veterans buried there, including Carl Malm, in May 1924.