Let $T$ denote the unit circle in the complex plane; let $L^\infty$ denote the usual space of bounded measurable functions on $T$ with respect to arc length measure; let $H^\infty$ denote the subalgebra of $L^\infty$ consisting of those $L^\infty$ functions whose Fourier coefficients corresponding to the negative integers all vanish; and let $C$ denote the set of continuous complex-valued functions on $T$. The Sarason space $H^\infty + C$ is the linear span of $H^\infty$ and $C$. Surprisingly, $H^\infty + C$ is a closed subalgebra of $L^\infty$. This expository talk will highlight the many remarkable appearances of $H^\infty + C$ in various aspects of operator theory and function theory. (Received July 14, 2017)